



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

COMMERCE BUILDING
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RULES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO KEEPING OF ANIMALS

In Accordance with Saint Paul Legislative Codes 198 and 200.15

A. **Scope and Purpose.** The provisions of this regulation will apply to the keeping of animals, requiring a permit from the City of Saint Paul Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI). Animals covered under this permit are: more than one (1) rabbit; and/or one (1) or more hooved animals, pig, ferret, mink, chicken, turkey, duck, goose, pigeon or similar small animal or bird; any chinchilla, hamster, gerbil, white rat, mouse, or guinea pig which is not kept as a pet; bees; wild or exotic animals; more than three (3) cats; more than three (3) dogs; and animals not absolutely prohibited by Chapter 198.03.

B. **Definitions.** The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this chapter. The word “shall”, as used herein, indicates a mandatory requirement.

- 1) Bees are defined as Genus and Species Apes Mellifera.
- 2) “Wild animals” shall mean all living creatures, not human, wild by nature, endowed with sensation and power of voluntary motion, and includes quadrupeds, mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, crustaceans and mollusks.
- 3) “Dog” and “Cat” shall mean male or female of any breed of any domesticated dog or cat.

When such animals are kept, they shall be controlled to prevent them from harming themselves or the public. They shall also be kept in such a manner as to prevent them from becoming a public or private nuisance.

C. **Application for Permit**

- 1) The application for a permit shall be on a form supplied by the Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) or the Animal Control Center. Application for a permit shall be accompanied by written approval from 75% of owners and/or renters of privately or publicly owned real estate within 150 feet of the outer boundaries of the applicant’s premises for which the permit is being requested, or proof that the applicant’s property lines are 150 feet or more from any structure.
- 2) The application shall list the species and the maximum number of animals for which the permit is applicable. If the permit is for cats or ferrets, each cat or ferret must be listed by name and have proof of current rabies vaccination. If the permit is for dogs, each dog must be listed by name and currently licensed, and have proof of current rabies vaccination.
- 3) The permit shall state the species and the number of animals which may be maintained on the premises, and the permittee shall immediately inform the DSI, in writing, when the number of animals maintained on the premises exceeds the number allowed by the permit or when a different number or species is substituted for those listed on the permit. If a permittee wishes to increase the number of animals allowed or substitute or add a different species to those listed on the permit, a new permit (including a new petition) must be applied for, and the appropriate fee paid.

- 4) Permits for fostering or rescuing animals shall have this stated on the application, and the applicant must possess a State Board of Animal Health Certificate.
- 5) For buildings or structures which consist of five (5) or more individual units, the applicant must obtain written permission of the Property or Association Manager. It shall be the responsibility of this Manager to instill any additional rules and regulations it deems necessary.
- 6) Where a property consists of a multiple dwelling and lies within 150 feet of the applicant's dwelling, the applicant need only obtain the written consent of the Owner, Manager, or other person in charge of the building.

D. Facilities

- 1) Housing facilities and grounds shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, and in good repair. Flies, rodents, and noxious odors shall be controlled. Facilities shall be kept free of fecal matter, and collected fecal material shall be properly stored and disposed.
- 2) Construction and maintenance of the holding facilities shall comply with all applicable rules, regulations, ordinances, and statutes.
- 3) Stored fecal matter shall not be allowed to accumulate on the property. Stored fecal matter shall be removed at least twice each week between April 1 and November 30.
- 4) No permit shall be issued until the owner has demonstrated that the animal(s) shall be kept in a holding area, capable of containing the animal(s).

E. Flying of Pigeons

Racing and Homing pigeons may be allowed to fly for a period of time not to exceed two (2) hours. The two-hour period may take place once in the morning between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., and once in the evening between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The birds shall not be allowed to become an annoyance or nuisance to neighboring properties.

F. Rodent Control

When rodent control measures are indicated, rodent control measures will be instituted by the permit holder or by any approved licensed pest control operator.

G. Bees

- 1) There shall be only one colony of bees for every 2,000 square feet of property area.
- 2) The bee hive(s) shall be located in the center of the property furthest away from adjoining property lines.
- 3) The bee hive(s) shall be surrounded by a hedge, snow fence or other barrier to insure that when the bees enter or leave the hive they assume a vertical flight pattern.
- 4) See the enclosed "Bee Restrictions" form for additional requirements.

H. **Dogs/Cats/Ferrets** **Sec. 199.02: Vaccination requirements, and Sec. 199.03: Vaccination identification.**

- 1) Every dog, cat, or ferret four (4) months of age and older, shall be vaccinated against rabies.
- 2) Every dog, cat, or ferret which is not vaccinated at the time of its acquisition or transportation into the city shall be vaccinated within thirty (30) days of acquisition or arrival, whichever is applicable, unless the dog, cat, or ferret is under four (4) months of age. Vaccination must be kept current.

A metal or durable plastic current rabies vaccination tag, issued by the attending veterinarian, shall be securely attached to the collar or harness of the dog, cat, or ferret by the owner. Whenever the dog, cat, or ferret is out of doors, whether on or off the owner's premises, the collar or harness with the vaccination tag must be worn. In addition, the owner may be requested to provide a current certificate of rabies vaccination issued by the veterinarian.

- 3) The owner/applicant shall provide copies of **CURRENT** anti-rabies vaccinations for **ALL** animals prior to, or during inspection.

I. **Other Restrictions**

Obtaining and maintaining a permit is also subject to any other restriction or condition not listed in the rules and regulations which are imposed by the DSI or the Animal Control Center to protect the public health and safety, or to prevent or control a condition unique to the applicant's premises or animals.

J. **Revocation/Denial of Permit**

- 1) Violation of the terms of the permit or the rules and regulations for obtaining and maintaining a residential permit shall be grounds for revocation or denial of the permit.
- 2) Substantiated reports from owners or renters within 150 feet of the outer boundary of the permittee's property that the animals frequently or habitually are noisy or create another nuisance condition shall be grounds for revocation of the permit.
- 3) Failure to renew the permit shall be grounds for revocation of the permit.
- 4) Violation of PRIVATELY owned building or association rules and regulations shall be grounds for revocation of the permit.
- 5) Notification of INTENT TO DENY OR REVOKE shall be issued by the DSI or the Animal Control Center by mail or in person, and shall mean the permit is pending. The applicant or permit holder will have ten (10) days maximum to remove, reduce the number of animals, or to appeal this decision, whichever is applicable. If appealing the decision, the appeal must be submitted in writing within ten (10) days of receiving the denial notification.

The appeal shall be submitted to:

City of Saint Paul
Director, DSI
8 Fourth Street E., Suite 200
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1024